

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 802

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to recognize Reverend John Wood on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have answered a divine call to the ministry and who have served with dedication, vigor, and enthusiasm to perform God's work for their congregations and their communities; and

WHEREAS, Reverend John Wood is one such estimable person, who has served as senior pastor of Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church (CSPC) for twenty-eight years and will soon take his well-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, raised in Illinois and North Carolina, Reverend Wood holds degrees from the University of Massachusetts and Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, Reverend John Wood honorably served his country for four years in the U.S. Navy Hospital Corps, and part of his service was with the 3rd Marine Division in southeast Asia during the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Wood became senior pastor of CSPC in 1990; the church was organized in Knoxville in 1796 and is a member of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church; and

WHEREAS, during the course of Reverend Wood's leadership, CSPC has experienced significant physical and spiritual growth, and it is well known for its international missions program; church members believe that through the work of Jesus, God is restoring the peace of his creation and is renewing individuals, families, cities, and cultures as people trust and follow Christ; and

WHEREAS, a faithful servant to the City of Knoxville, Reverend John Wood co-founded a downtown church plant, All Souls Church; and

WHEREAS, a gifted thinker, writer, and theologian, Reverend Wood frequently speaks at conferences for church and mission organizations in the United States and around the world; and

WHEREAS, Reverend John Wood has served on Wheaton College's Board of Visitors as well as on the board of Covenant Seminary, the National Association of Evangelicals, and World Evangelical Alliance's North American Council; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Wood is grateful for the love and support he shares with his wife, Marianne Miller Wood; his children, Rachel, David, and Sarah; and his six grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable and devout career as a pastor, Reverend John Wood has evinced the utmost spirituality, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his congregation; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are delighted to recognize this committed Christian leader for his service to his community and to the congregation of Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Reverend John Wood our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.